

S/N 10/091,126

PATENTRemarks

Favorable review is requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks. Claims 1-16, 18-20, and 22-24 have been canceled. Claims 17, 21 and 25-26 are pending in the application. Claim 17 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 18. Independent claim 26 includes the limitation from claim 19.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 17 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kahelin (U.S. Patent No. 3989027) in view of Stokes (U.S. Patent No. 3990426). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, and respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following comments. Claim 18 was among the claims indicated to be allowable. Therefore, the rejection of claim 17 is moot in view of the above amendments. Claim 21 further depends on claim 17. Therefore, claim 21 is allowable for at least the same reasons. Applicants do not concede the correctness of these rejections.

Added claims 25-26

Claims 25-26 have been added including the limitation from claim 19. Claim 19 was among the claims indicated to be allowable. Therefore claims 25-26 should be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 19.

S/N 10/091,126

PATENTConclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.



Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER & LARSON, P.C.  
P.O. Box 2902-0902  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
(612)455-3800

Date: July 13, 2005

By

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'DPM', written over a horizontal line.

Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300  
DPM